

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2013**

ATTENDANCE: 1st Selectman Stevenson; David Campbell; Gerald Nielsen;
David Bayne; John Lundeen

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer

OTHER: Dr. Stephen Falcone; Police Chief Duane Lovello

CALL TO ORDER

1st Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

**REPORT ON SCHOOL SECURITY FROM DR. STEPHEN FALCONE,
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, AND POLICE CHIEF DUANE LOVELLO**

Dr. Stephen Falcone, Darien Superintendent of Schools, and Duane Lovello, Darien Police Chief, presented a report on the District's schools' safety issues based on the events of December 14, 2012.

Dr. Falcone said that school security has been and continues to be the focus. He mentioned that there is magnetic key entry in all the schools. There is an increased use of security cameras and expanded use of the walkie/talkie systems. There are security monitors at the high school as well as an SRO. The schools are obligated to conduct 10 fire drills a year, with one of the 10 drills allowed to be used as a lockdown drill, or a shelter or evacuation drill. There are separate zones for parents and bus drop-off.

At the elementary school level, they have an emergency response plan with guidelines on how to react and proactively react to tornadoes, hurricanes, armed intruders, and fires. He said there is a Safety and Security Committee that meets monthly to review all safety issues. There was a survey and assessment done regarding all hardware and doors. There is potential to put additional magnetic stoppers on doors to ensure they remain locked.

He summarized the following three areas that the District is working on:

- Hardware - They are reviewing what they need to do to ensure all hardware and doors are working properly.
- Human Capital - They might consider having security personnel at all buildings and possibly armed guards.

- Drills and Procedures - These have to be updated. They will continue to work closely with the Police Department to keep everyone informed of the most updated procedures and the proper way to handle drills. While there are reverse 911 systems and email systems already in place, teachers will wear badges and lock doors at all times.

Dr. Falcone said that the Police Department has been more than cooperative in providing a safe presence in and around the school buildings.

Police Chief Lovello said that the Police Department has requested from the District all drill policies and procedures to determine if they are up to date. They will then meet with all staff on campuses to review and improved the drills. He said the Police Department has offered their Training Department to assist the school staff. Drills are run after school hours to ensure they are being implemented correctly. School staff will then practice the same drills. In response to some questions from the Selectmen, Chief Lovello said that there is an on-going anti-bullying project, and the Safety and Security Committee and all school staff are on heightened alert.

First Selectman Stevenson said on behalf of all town residents, especially parents, she thanked Police Chief Lovello and Superintendent Falcone for working together on this. She asked Chief Lovello to lend his expertise regarding security at the town's municipal buildings.

REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CENTRAL OFFICE/MATHER CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Campbell said the 35 Leroy Avenue project is on schedule. The demolition is almost complete with the exception of a stairwell. The interior wall framing is complete, and the rough electrical work is almost done.

He said they met today with consultants for the Mather Center project to review HVAC work and finalize the contract. He said the town garage work project has the floor completed and the stairs will be installed this week. He estimated that the occupancy date for the Mather Center should be late September/early October. And 35 Leroy Avenue should be occupied by mid-April.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

1st Selectman Stevenson thanked Mr. Lundeen for standing in for her while she was away. She mentioned that she is continuing to work with CL&P to determine protocol for being made aware of power outages in town. She said she has recently become a member of a group called "Mayors Against Illegal Guns". She then read the following provided information into the record:

“Happy New Year.

Christmas Eve Power Outage – accident on the Post Road damaged a utility pole – initiated dialogue with Darien’s CL&P representative to put better communication protocols in place (same issue during Storm Sandy).

1/4/13 – attended the first meeting of the Board of Education Facilities and Capital Committee Meeting. Morgan Whittier was named Chair. School security and facility needs were both discussed. I’ve provided you with copies of their initial report.

This week I have been attending Department Head budget meetings. With most of our immediate capital needs satisfied, you will be seeing increases in operating expenses for both personnel in some departments and facility maintenance for our newest buildings. The personnel requests are attributed to public demand for service, but are being very carefully scrutinized at the Administrative Officer review level. Please review your budgets in advance of our meetings with department heads.”

Some discussion took place regarding gun control.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff said they are now in budget season. There are some issues to deal with regarding the spending plan for the fiscal year and there is more work to be done.

He said that FEMA will be here later this week to review sites as the Town continues to recover from Hurricane Sandy.

He said the insurance for the Town continues to be a lengthy process, especially regarding Weed Beach and the liability carrier.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Discuss and Take Action on Approval of FY 2013-14 Budget Review Calendar

**** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FY 2013-14 BUDGET REVIEW CALENDAR.**

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

AGENDA REVIEW

1st Selectman Stevenson said that they will have the sidewalk policy on the agenda and also a review of projects. She said she will try to have Bob present at the next meeting so they can discuss issues prior to the start of the budget meetings.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following appointments:

a) Alan Armstrong to the Environmental Protection Commission for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2010 and expiring on June 30, 2013.

**** MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ALAN ARMSTRONG TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION FOR A 3 YEAR TERM BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2010 AND EXPIRING ON JUNE 30, 2013.**

**** MR. LUNDEEN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Regular Meeting of December 17, 2012

The changes to the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2012 are as follows:

On page 2, 1st paragraph, change “Chief Lovella” to “Chief Lovello”.

On page 3, 4th paragraph, insert space between “THE” and “FEDERAL”.

On page 5, 5th paragraph, insert space between “BAYNE” and “MOVED”.

On page 9, 4th paragraph, change “thorough” to “through”; change “meting” to “meeting”; change “Chief Lovella” to “Chief Lovello”.

**** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2012 AS AMENDED.**

**** MR. CAMPBELL SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

January 14, 2013 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

January 15, 2013 Joint Department Head Meeting at 8:30 a.m.

OTHER BUSINESS (Any items added to the agenda require a two-thirds vote.)

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. LUNDEEN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr
Telesco Secretarial Services